Pak Prime Minister's stand on the Kashmir issue

*233. SHRI DEBA PRASAD RAY : DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent utterances of the Prime Minister of Pakistan to the effect that Simla Agreement did not rule out the raising of the so-called Kashmir issue in the United Nations and other international fora; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Government have seen reports to this effect.

(b) Government are net in favour of internationalisation of bilateral issues. From time to time Pakistan has been made aware of our stand that **J&K** is an integral part of India and that the only issue which remains to be resolved is vacation of Indian territory under Pakistan's illegal occupation. We are of the view that all matters between the two countries should be resolved bilaterally and in accordance with the Simla Agreement.

Uniform curriculum in schools and colleges

*234. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI: Will the MINISTER of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state.

(a) whether a uniform curriculum in schools and colleges is an effective instrument for building and fostering nationalism and values of life;

(b) whether the Central Government had issued any guidelines to the State Governments/Union Territories in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are their response and the action taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) :

Statement

(a) to (c) It has been well accepted educationally that school education should be in the context of local needs and requirements. Therefore, the curricula, the syllabi and the textbooks for the school stage have been designed by the State Government agencies in different parts of the country. In a diverse country like India where local situations and needs vary substantially from one part of the country to the other, **a** totally uniform curriculum will be substantially in-appropriate in many parts of the country.

The National Policy on Educa-tion-1986 envisages a national system of education based on a national curricular framework which contains a common core along with other components that are flexible. The components of the core curriculam will cut across subject areas and will contain content essential to nurture national identity. The policy envisages that all educational programmes will be carried on in conformity with secular values.

The National Council of Educational Research and Training has developed national curricular frame work for school stage and in pursuance of such framework it has developed curriculam guidelines, syllabi and text-books for different stages of school edcuation. These have been made available to the States also. The States have been urged to use these materials and revise their syllabi and text-books for different stages of school education.